

'Love Boat' will cruise

By PAUL HENNIGER

HOLLYWOOD — "The Love Boat," four tales of comedic adventures aboard a cruise ship, the pilot screening Friday night on ABC, is another project set for a series next January. Producer Doug Cramer says he was borrowing a little from his old Love American Style series in doing comedy in the pilot — Don Adams, Tom Bosley, Gabe Kaplan, Harvey Korman, Hal Linden, Florence Henderson, Cloris Leachman and Karen Valentine are featured — but when the series begins the stories won't be all comedy. The pilot-series is based on former cruise directors Jeraldine Saunders' novel, "The Love Boats."

"The bulk of the stories we will be doing are mature and perceptive," says Cramer, noting the level of comedy will be beyond Love American Style. "Stories will be anthological in that the passengers that come aboard each cruise will

be different. Only the ship's crew will have continuing roles."

The pilot was filmed aboard the Pacific and Orient Sun Princess on a four-day cruise to Ensenada. ABC has ordered a second pilot, titled "Love Boat II," which will be a 10-day cruise to Puerto Vallarta and Acapulco in December. "It will have essentially the same format as the first but there will be at least one more dramatic story."

The studio has already booked 100 rooms aboard that cruise, making this one of the most appealing jobs for the lucky actors being cast.

With the majestic Queen Mary berthed a short distance from Hollywood, wouldn't it have been less expensive to use its facilities?

"I'm sorry to say the Queen has been so raped and plundered by the local people turning it into a tourist attraction that it's not suitable for us," Cramer concludes.

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Dec 10, 2024